UNITED
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Security Council

Distr.
GENERAL

S/22176
30 January 1991

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

NOTE BY THE PRESIDENT OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL

Following consultations with the members of the Security Council, the President of the Council made the following statement, on behalf of the Council, at its 2975th meeting on 30 January 1991, in connection with the Council's consideration of the item entitled "The situation in the Middle East":

"The members of the Security Council have noted with appreciation the report of the Secretary-General on the United Nations Interim Force in Lebanon (UNIFIL) (S/22129) submitted in conformity with resolution 659 (1990).

"They reaffirm their commitment to the full sovereignty, independence, territorial integrity and national unity of Lebanon within its internationally recognized boundaries. In this context, they assert that any State shall refrain from the threat or use of force against the territorial integrity or political independence of any State, or in any other manner inconsistent with the Purposes of the United Nations.

"As the Security Council extends the mandate of UNIFIL for a further interim period on the basis of resolution 425 (1978), the members of the Council again stress the need for the implementation of that resolution in all its aspects. They express their appreciation for the continuing efforts of the Secretary-General and his staff in this regard. They reiterate their full support for the Taif Agreement and for the recent efforts of the Lebanese Government to extend its authority over all Lebanese territory.

"The members of the Security Council take this opportunity to commend UNIFIL's troops and troop-contributing countries for their sacrifices and commitment to the cause of international peace and security under difficult circumstances."

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Security Council

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S/22177
31 January 1991
ENGLISH
ORIGINAL: SPANISH

LETTER DATED 29 JANUARY 1991 FROM THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF VENEZUELA TO THE UNITED NATIONS ADDRESSED TO THE SECRETARY-GENERAL

I have the honour to transmit to you, in the annex, the text of the information note issued by the Ministers for Foreign Affairs of the Permanent Mechanism for Consultation and Concerted Political Action, Rio Group, on the conclusion of the meeting held at Caracas on 28 January 1991.

I should be grateful if you would have this letter, together with the aforesaid document, circulated as a Security Council document.

(Signed) Andrés AGUILAR M.
Ambassador
Permanent Representative

Annex

Information note

The Ministers for Foreign Affairs of the Permanent Mechanism for Consultation and Concerted Political Action, Rio Group, meeting at Caracas on 28 January 1991, informed the public that they had held a full discussion during which they had considered the possible effects of the Middle East crisis on Latin America and had exchanged views on the development of the events in that region, as well as on other matters of common interest.

They agreed to reiterate their support for the resolutions of the Security Council of the United Nations and to renew their backing of the role which the Secretary-General of the United Nations has to play in promoting a solution to the conflict whereby it would be possible to restore peace in accordance with international law, to initiate multilateral efforts towards a comprehensive, peaceful and definitive settlement of the problems of the region, and the submission of a report on the developments in implementation of the Security Council resolutions.

They jointly condemned expansion of the conflict in the form of attacks on non-belligerent countries of the zone, such as Israel. They were in agreement on the need to ensure that the Geneva Conventions on the treatment of prisoners of war are strictly adhered to, and that the parties to the conflict refrain from the use of chemical or biological weapons and from mass or indiscriminate destruction.

They jointly expressed their alarm at the damage being inflicted on the environment as a result of the conflict.

They decided to give thought to the system of international security embodied in the Charter of the United Nations and the possible changes which that system would require in order to reflect international reality, and to its relationship with Latin American security to which it must assign an economic priority which is lacking at present.

They agreed to retain the question of the Middle East on the agenda of its periodic consultations and to assign to a committee, consisting of Chile, Colombia and Ecuador, the task of following the Gulf crisis in all its aspects, including the study of proposals and mechanisms which would enable the Group to make an effective contribution to the establishment of a new order of peace in the region, based on the participation of all parties involved and on implementation of all the resolutions of the United Nations, including the solution of the Palestine problem.

The Ministers agreed to send a message to the Secretary-General of the United Nations in order to express their backing of the steps which he is taking to promote peace in El Salvador, and to urge the parties to the conflict and the Secretary-General to intensify their efforts towards achieving an early solution.

The Ministers received with concern the report of the Special Mission which recently visited Panama and reiterated the need for the Panamanian Government to comply, in all cases, with the provisions on diplomatic asylum set forth in the Caracas Convention, of which Panama is a party.

The Ministers considered the reports submitted by the Executive Secretary of the United Nations Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC), the Permanent Secretary of the Latin American Economic System (SELA) and the Executive Secretary of the Latin American Energy Organization (OLADE) on the effects of the crisis in the region.

The Ministers expressed their deep concern at the consequences of the conflict in the Gulf for the world economy and especially for the economies of Latin America and the Caribbean.

New indications of instability and uncertainty in the world economy affect the principal economic variables, such as growth, interest rates, investment, inflation and trade, and threaten to create even greater disruptions in regional efforts to adjust economies and promote economic and social development.

Accordingly, the Ministers agreed as follows:

To design and strengthen mechanisms to promote economic security in Latin America and the Caribbean in all areas where the region may be affected by the crisis and to undertake preparations in order to deal with unpredictable economic situations; they decided to request ECLAC and SELA to collaborate in assessing the possible economic consequences of the conflict in the Gulf.

In the field of energy, they agreed to tackle problems of supply and pricing, without prejudice to existing commercial agreements in the oil sector and in respect of other sources of energy as well. In that connection, they agreed to request OLADE to look into storage capacities, oil trade flows, available refining capacities and transport more thoroughly.

In the area of finance, they agreed to adopt financing mechanisms to soften the impact of energy price fluctuations on the economies of the region, as exemplified by the San José and Tuxtla agreements. They emphasized the need to accelerate the implementation of the commitment undertaken in the Caracas Declaration to establish a strategic investment fund for integration using resources obtained through increases in commodity price.

They agreed to hold an extraordinary meeting of Ministers of Energy to study the energy initiatives put forward at the present meeting. They also agreed to establish a standing evaluation committee to monitor external events that might affect the economies of Latin America and the Caribbean and the implementation of the measures adopted. They supported the holding of consultations among oil producers, consumers and operators, as proposed by the President of Venezuela at the United Nations.

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ORIGINAL: ARABIC

LETTER DATED 31 JANUARY 1991 FROM THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF QATAR TO THE UNITED NATIONS ADDRESSED TO THE SECRETARY-GENERAL

On instructions from my Government, I have the honour to transmit to you herewith the text of the statement issued by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the State of Qatar on 17 January 1991. I should be grateful if you would have this letter and its annex circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(Signed) Hassan Ali Hussain AL-NI'MAH
Permanent Representative

Annex

Statement issued by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Qatar
on 17 January 1991

With the exhaustion of all the efforts made and the frustration of the initiatives proposed and appeals launched to Iraqi President Saddam Hussein for his compliance with the inter-Arab and Islamic resolutions and the resolutions of the United Nations Security Council calling for the unconditional withdrawal of the Iraqi forces occupying the State of Kuwait and the restoration to Kuwait of its legitimate Government under the leadership of its Amir, His Highness Sheikh Jaber Al-Ahmad Al-Jaber Al-Sabah, and given that the Iraqi President has persisted in his intransigent stance of rejecting all such efforts, initiatives and appeals and that he rejected the international rule of law while it was yet in his power to avoid the worst and avert hostilities and bloodshed, military operations for the liberation of the State of Kuwait commenced early today in implementation of Security Council resolutions which are supported by the State of Qatar.

"If God helps you, none can overcome you."

"Help comes only from God, the All-mighty, the All-wise."

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S/22179
31 January 1991

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

LETTER DATED 30 JANUARY 1991 FROM THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF GUYANA TO THE UNITED NATIONS ADDRESSED TO THE SECRETARY-GENERAL

I have the honour to forward herewith the text of the statement by the Government of the Republic of Guyana on the conflict in the Persian Gulf.

I should be grateful if this statement could be circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(Signed) S. R. INSANALLY
Ambassador
Permanent Representative

Annex

Statement dated 25 January 1991 by the Government of the Republic of Guyana on the conflict in the Gulf

The Gulf war has now entered its second week and, from statements being made by military experts, could be prolonged for months.

The Government of Guyana has regretted deeply the outbreak of the war which can only lead to massive destruction of property, tragic loss of human life and untold human suffering. The war, moreover, will have severe consequences for the world economy, with vulnerable developing countries, like Guyana, being the most seriously affected.

The Government recalls that, at the time of Iraq's invasion of Kuwait, leaders of the Caribbean Community (CARICOM), then meeting in Kingston, Jamaica, had issued a joint statement denouncing the invasion of Kuwait by the armed forces of Iraq and calling for their immediate and unconditional withdrawal.

The Government had hoped the crisis would have been settled by peaceful means. Unhappily this has not been so.

The Government has supported the various United Nations Security Council resolutions that have as their objective the removal of Iraq's presence from Kuwait. In this regard, Guyana notes with appreciation the untiring efforts of the Secretary-General of the United Nations to find a peaceful solution to the Gulf crisis. The Government reiterates its strong support for the set of resolutions the Security Council has adopted since the start of the crisis.

The Government of Guyana wishes also to reiterate its long-standing and uncompromising position on the inadmissibility of the acquisition of territory by force and to underscore the imperative of the peaceful settlement of disputes in accordance with the Charter of the United Nations.

As indicated earlier, the consequences of the war for developing countries are likely to be profound. In this regard Guyana faces the prospects of significantly increased acquisition costs for its oil prices. We will also have to contend with a range of consequential price increases. We will thus need to be more disciplined in the use of fuel products and in the management of all our resources.

The Government expresses the hope that, at this time of additional shocks to the domestic economy, arising from circumstances totally beyond its control, citizens would avoid any action that could disrupt production, undermine the export performance and retard the progress of our economic recovery programme.

In the mean time, the Government wishes to assure all citizens that it is taking all appropriate measures, including the making of arrangements with external friendly countries and international agencies to minimize the consequences of the war on our country's economy and the well-being of our citizens.

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S/22180
31 January 1991
ENGLISH
ORIGINAL: ARABIC/ENGLISH

LETTER DATED 30 JANUARY 1991 FROM THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF SAUDI ARABIA TO THE UNITED NATIONS ADDRESSED TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL

I have the pleasure, pursuant to paragraphs 3 and 4 of Security Council resolution 678 (1990), to transmit herewith the report received from my Government on the progress of operations for the liberation of the State of Kuwait, until this day.

I would be grateful if you would kindly have this communication circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(Signed) Samir S. SHIHABI
Permanent Representative

Annex

Report dated 30 January 1991 of the Government of Saudi Arabia on the progress of operations for the liberation of the State of Kuwait

In accordance with the provisions of paragraphs 3 and 4 of Security Council resolution 678 (1990), I should like to inform you of the military operations currently under way for the liberation of Kuwait. These operations, at sea and in the air, are concentrated in particular on weakening the ability of the Iraqi forces to remain in Kuwait and weakening the capacity to support and assist them. Operations between 17 and 27 January 1991 have been as follows.

Military support:

1. The air forces of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia have carried out 1,408 sorties against military targets in Iraq and Kuwait, while avoiding civilian targets.

2. The Kingdom of Saudi Arabia has participated in naval operations. There have been 177 naval sorties, and naval aircraft have carried out 158 sorties in support of naval operations.

3. The Kingdom of Saudi Arabia has provided five brigades, together with their command and combat support.

4. The air-defence forces of Saudi Arabia have provided two air-defence groups to provide cover to the theatre of operations.

Material support:

The Kingdom of Saudi Arabia is providing all elements of the armed forces located in the theatre of operations, estimated at 560,000, with food, water, fuel, communications, the buildings needed for accommodation and medical treatment and the facilities and services that they require, in addition to other material support already provided by the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia to the coalition forces.

Human losses:

The cities of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia have been bombarded by 26 missiles, which have landed in purely civilian localities of no military value. Eight Saudis were wounded as a result of the explosion of missiles over Damman on 20 January 1991. Twelve persons, two Saudi civilians and the others of various nationalities, were wounded by the explosion of missiles launched against Riyadh on 20 January 1991. Four Saudis were killed and 30 persons wounded, including Saudi civilians and persons of different nationalities, as a result of the explosion of missiles over Riyadh on 25 January 1991.

Material damage:

Material damage resulted from the fall of an explosive device in the Sulaymaniyah quarter of Riyadh on 20 January 1991. Cracks appeared in nearby buildings, windows and doors were broken and damage was caused to a number of homes, buildings, shops and vehicles.

A missile warhead fell on the building of the Civil Status Directorate in Riyadh on 25 January 1991, destroying it, causing cracks to appear in adjacent buildings and destroying 12 vehicles belonging to inhabitants of the quarter.

We must stress that the Iraqi régime bears responsibility for all the suffering of the Iraqi people and the other peoples affected by this war, including the human and material losses, and for the destruction of Iraq's capacities, which it has misused for destruction and aggression instead of putting them to constructive use and promoting good-neighbourliness and which have become a danger to its neighbours instead of being a help and support to its own country and neighbouring countries.

The basic objective of the resort to force, to which there was no alternative for the implementation of the resolutions of the Security Council, continues to be the establishment of a peace that is not vitiated by aggressive intentions and acts of aggression.

I shall provide you with reports on ongoing operations in the war as long as they continue.

(Signed) Samir S. SHIHABI
Permanent Representative

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Security Council

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GENERAL

S/22181
31 January 1991
ENGLISH
ORIGINAL: FRENCH

LETTER DATED 29 JANUARY 1991 FROM THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF SENEGAL TO THE UNITED NATIONS ADDRESSED TO THE SECRETARY-GENERAL

I have the honour to transmit to you herewith the text of the statement made in the Council of Ministers on 22 January 1991 by the President of the Republic of Senegal concerning the crisis in the Gulf.

I should be grateful if you would have this letter circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(Signed) Absa Claude DIALLO

Annex

Statement dated 22 January 1991 by the President of the Republic of Senegal

The world entered into war on 16 January 1991 because of Iraq's flagrant violation of international law in invading and annexing Kuwait.

The Senegalese Government has unceasingly endeavoured to ensure respect for international law and to secure the withdrawal of Iraqi troops from Kuwait and the restoration of that country's legitimate Government.

Working in concert with the nations of the world, Senegal has sought to implement Security Council resolutions, particularly the resolution authorizing the use of force as of 15 January.

Senegal has always hoped that a decision by the Iraqi President to withdraw from Kuwait might preserve peace.

Unfortunately, the Iraqi President has persisted in his illegal acts. In the face of its failure to generalize the conflict, Iraq has, in the past 24 hours, used prisoners of war as human shields, in violation of the Geneva Convention on the treatment of prisoners of war.

Deeply shocked and angered, the Government of Senegal has condemned this inhumane policy which runs counter to law.

The Government of Senegal hopes that this war will come to an end as quickly as possible so that such major problems as Palestine, underdevelopment, and the search for a new, fairer international order can mobilize the energies of all the peoples of the world.

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S/22182
31 January 1991
ENGLISH
ORIGINAL: FRENCH

LETTER DATED 31 JANUARY 1991 FROM THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF TUNISIA TO THE UNITED NATIONS ADDRESSED TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL

I have the honour to transmit to you herewith a letter dated 31 January 1991 addressed to you by Mr. Habib Boularès, Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Tunisian Republic, and should like to request you to have this letter circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(Signed) Ahmed GHEZAL
Ambassador
Permanent Representative

Annex

Letter dated 31 January 1991 from the Minister for Foreign Affairs of Tunisia addressed to the President of the Security Council

The military operations in the Gulf which began in the early hours of 17 January 1991 have taken a dangerous turn today as the parties to the conflict threaten to use chemical, bacteriological and nuclear weapons. Indeed, the statements issued on Monday, 28 January 1991, raise the fear that the transition to non-conventional warfare is imminent.

Tunisia, which has always condemned the use of weapons of mass destruction, believes that this turn of events, which may occur at any moment, is not unstoppable. We do not accept the idea that the United Nations can do nothing about this situation, which will lead directly to the fateful deployment of the ultimate weapon. The Security Council still has time to call for a suspension of hostilities so that this fate can be avoided and preference can once again be given to the path of reason and negotiation over the vagaries of war.

While reiterating the demand it has made together with the countries of the Arab Maghreb Union, Tunisia calls upon the Security Council to take this decision to prevent a disaster which will have irreparable consequences and which we all will one day call unjustified and, above all, preventable. The peoples of the world would find it incomprehensible that the Security Council, which has the power to stop the war from escalating, did not do so at the appropriate time.

A United Nations victory ought not be identified with victory achieved by weapons; even less should it be achieved at the cost of destruction on a scale hitherto unseen in this part of the world, which has in fact been scarred by seven wars in less than 50 years. A United Nations victory lies only in peace: there is still time to give it every chance.

(Signed) Habib BOULARES

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S/22183
31 January 1991

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

NOTE VERBALE DATED 31 JANUARY 1991 FROM THE PERMANENT MISSION OF BELIZE TO THE UNITED NATIONS ADDRESSED TO THE SECRETARY-GENERAL

The Permanent Mission of Belize to the United Nations presents its compliments to the Secretary-General of the United Nations and has the honour to transmit the text of the statement by the Government of Belize on the situation in the Gulf.

The Permanent Mission of Belize to the United Nations would be grateful if the attached statement could be circulated as a document of the Security Council.

Annex

Statement dated 19 January 1991 by the Government of Belize

The Government of Belize laments the outbreak of hostilities in the Persian Gulf. Belize took the position throughout the crisis that a peaceful, diplomatic and political solution was the most desirable course of action.

We regard the decision taken by the coalition forces whose publicly stated goal is the liberation of Kuwait and not the destruction, occupation or dismemberment of Iraq, to be consistent and in compliance with the United Nations Security Council resolution 678.

It is our hope that the action taken can be concluded in the shortest possible time to avoid the loss of life, especially of innocent civilians.

Belize, a small nation itself, can never condone aggression and must at all times support the rule of international law, with particular regard for the sovereignty and territorial integrity of all States.

We are deeply concerned for the safety of all Belizeans and their relatives who may be in combat or residing in the area of conflict.

It remains our firm commitment to work within the United Nations system for a comprehensive peace settlement in order to secure to all peoples of the Middle East without exception, a future of peace, freedom and justice.

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General Assembly Security Council

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S/22184
31 January 1991
ENGLISH
ORIGINAL: ARABIC

GENERAL ASSEMBLY
Forty-sixth session
THE SITUATION IN THE MIDDLE EAST

SECURITY COUNCIL
Forty-sixth year

Letter dated 31 January 1991 from the Permanent Representative of Lebanon to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

On instructions from my Government, and further to our previous letters concerning Israeli attacks on Lebanon, I have the honour to inform you that on Tuesday, 29 January 1991, Israeli helicopters bombarded the Rashidiye Palestine refugee camp near the city of Tyre. This was accompanied by concentrated shelling from Israeli warships inside Lebanon's territorial waters.

This act of aggression resulted in the killing of five persons and the wounding of 10 and in the destruction of a number of buildings and of property.

The Lebanese Government, in strongly condemning this fresh act of aggression against Lebanon's sovereignty and its civilian inhabitants in violation of international humanitarian law, urges the international community as represented by the United Nations to take action to bring a halt to repeated Israeli attacks so as to help establish security and peace in southern Lebanon.

I request you to have this letter circulated as a document of the forty-sixth session of the General Assembly, under the item entitled "The situation in the Middle East", and of the Security Council.

(Signed) Khalil MAKKAWI
Ambassador
Permanent Representative

91-03224 2132e (E)

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Security Council

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GENERAL

S/22185
31 January 1991
ENGLISH
ORIGINAL: ARABIC

LETTER DATED 31 JANUARY 1991 FROM THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF YEMEN TO THE UNITED NATIONS ADDRESSED TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL

In my letter addressed to you on 24 January 1991, I requested an immediate meeting of the Security Council to consider the grave situation in the Gulf region. In view of the fact that the Republic of Yemen is a member of the Security Council, to say nothing of the immediate character of the meeting it requested, we expected you to accede to our request on the basis of rule 2 of the provisional rules of procedure of the Security Council, which stipulates that "The President shall call a meeting of the Security Council at the request of any member of the Security Council".

Today, one full week having elapsed since the submission of our request for an immediate meeting of the Council, I am most distressed that you have not acceded to our request. This constitutes a dangerous precedent for the conduct of the work of the Council in accordance with its provisional rules of procedure, which remain in effect and which must be protected from becoming subject to personal whims or to the different official positions adopted.

Our concern is increased by the fact that our request for an immediate meeting has been made subject to procedures and conditions that have no relation to the provisional rules of procedure of the Council and the underlying objective of which is no more than to provide a means for procrastination, without any legal grounds, at a time when the situation in the Gulf region is becoming ever more serious owing to the fact that the scope of the military operations in the region has gone beyond that stipulated in Security Council resolution 678 (1990).

While recalling our request of 24 January 1991, we should like to state the following:

1. Rule 2 of the provisional rules of procedure of the Security Council is abundantly clear, and the request of any member of the Council for a meeting of the Council is not subject to or linked with any prior conditions. The grave precedent established by procrastination and delay in acceding to our request will give the opportunity for the Council to be accused of employing double standards in the

positions that it adopts. This is particularly so given that there are clear and binding resolutions that the Council has adopted on the Middle East issue, on Lebanon and on the Golan which still await implementation despite the fact that some of them were adopted more than 20 years ago and despite the fact that Israel is continuing its occupation of Palestinian and other Arab territories, including Jerusalem, the Golan and southern Lebanon.

2. The procedure being followed by the Security Council can only undermine the confidence of those who regard the Council as a just and effective force for the resolution of disputes and conflicts in the world.

3. We believe that the Security Council must meet its responsibilities as stipulated in the Charter and that it should tirelessly pursue its efforts for an immediate halt to the military operations in the Gulf region and to the great bloodshed and destruction that they are causing to the region. Above all, the Council must pursue its efforts with a view to achieving a peaceful solution to the conflict in this vital area of the world and to all the hotbeds of tension from which the region and its people are suffering.

I should be grateful if you would have this letter circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(Signed) Abdalla Saleh AL-ASHTAL
Ambassador
Permanent Representative

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Distr.
GENERAL

S/22186
1 February 1991
ENGLISH
ORIGINAL: FRENCH

LETTER DATED 31 JANUARY 1991 FROM THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF MAURITANIA TO THE UNITED NATIONS ADDRESSED TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL

I have the honour to transmit to you the text of the statement made to the national and international press on 31 January 1991 by the Mauritanian Minister for Foreign Affairs and Co-operation.

"I wanted to see you to share with you our feelings about what is happening in the Gulf two weeks after the outbreak of war.

"We are now in the fourteenth day of continuous day and night attacks on Iraqi territory by all airborne means (aircraft and long-range missiles).

"The media report, and eyewitnesses confirm, that these attacks have led in all regions of Iraq to the destruction of many scientific, cultural, social and economic infrastructural facilities, as well as to the deaths of a substantial number of civilians, including women, children and the elderly.

"Throughout the world, including in countries which are permanent members of the Security Council, voices are being raised in denunciation of this departure from the objective initially defined by the Council itself.

"The military operation has turned into an enterprise designed to break Iraq's human and material foundations.

"The slaughter of women, children and the elderly as well as the destruction of the archaeological heritage and holy places are, to say the least, contrary to the principles of democracy, the international rule of law and respect for human rights.

"I should like also to recall the sufferings experienced since 15 January by the citizens of Palestine, subjected to a continuous curfew in their occupied homeland.

"In the face of this harrowing ordeal and the inherent risks of its extension, with the threat of further destruction and loss of human life, we draw the attention of all peace-loving peoples who espouse the cause of freedom to the seriousness of the present situation.

"We further call on the Security Council to live up to its responsibilities so that it will remain a tool for peace and stability instead of serving as a means for legitimizing war and destruction.

"We also greatly appreciate the efforts being made by certain Islamic and non-aligned countries, as well as by men of good will throughout the world, to put an end to the war and find a peaceful settlement to the Gulf crisis and the whole range of problems in the Middle East, foremost among them the question of Palestine."

I should be grateful if you would have this letter circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(Signed) Mohamedou OULD MOHAMED MAHMOUD
Permanent Representative

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General Assembly Security Council

Distr.
GENERAL

A/45/947
S/22187
1 February 1991
ENGLISH
ORIGINAL: ARABIC

GENERAL ASSEMBLY
Forty-fifth session
Agenda item 153
IRAQI AGGRESSION AND THE CONTINUED OCCUPATION OF KUWAIT IN FLAGRANT VIOLATION OF THE CHARTER OF THE UNITED NATIONS

SECURITY COUNCIL
Forty-sixth year

Letter dated 1 February 1991 from the Permanent Representative of Qatar to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

I have the honour to transmit to you herewith the text of the communiqué issued by the Ministerial Council of the Gulf Co-operation Council on 26 January 1991 concerning developments in the situation in the Gulf since the commencement of the operation to liberate Kuwait.

I should be grateful if you would arrange to have the text of this letter and its annex circulated as a document of the General Assembly, under agenda item 153, and of the Security Council.

(Signed) Hassan Ali Hussain AL-NI'MAH

ANNEX

Press communiqué concerning developments in the situation in the Gulf region since the commencement of the operation to liberate Kuwait, issued on 26 January 1991 by the Ministerial Council of the Gulf Co-operation Council at the conclusion of its fourteenth extraordinary session

The Ministerial Council held its fourteenth extraordinary session on 26 January 1991 in the city of Riyadh.

The Council considered developments in the situation in the region since the commencement of the operation to liberate Kuwait carried out in implementation of Security Council resolution 678 (1990), which authorizes Member States to provide appropriate support to the Government of Kuwait and to use all necessary means to uphold and implement Security Council resolution 660 (1990) and all subsequent relevant resolutions concerning the aggression against Kuwait. The Council expressed its profound gratitude to the fraternal and friendly States which have placed themselves on the side of justice and supported lawfulness by taking a firm stand against the Iraqi aggression and taking part in the liberation of Kuwait.

The Council affirmed that the operation to liberate Kuwait was based on international lawfulness as reflected in the resolutions of the United Nations Security Council which that body had adopted in implementation of Chapter VII of the Charter of the United Nations.

Deeply convinced of the overwhelming need to liberate Kuwait and the merits of the position taken by the States of the Gulf Co-opertion Council, and expressing its profound esteem for the entire international community, which has opposed the aggression and adopted historic measures to bring that aggression to an end, the Ministerial Council anxiously awaits the conclusion of the operation to liberate Kuwait, invoking God, may He be praised, exalted and glorified in order that He might protect the innocent, spare their lives and keep them far from the evil deeds of the Iraqi régime.

The Council endorsed in that connection the position taken by the Heads of State of the countries members of the Council during their summit conference at Doha in December 1990, at which they had affirmed that Kuwait must be liberated at all costs, by peaceful means if possible or, failing that, by war.

The Council recalled the resolutions it had adopted on that same question at its preceding session, when it had announced that any effort that certain parties might make should be aimed at convincing the Iraqi régime to withdraw its forces from the State of Kuwait and restore the legitimate Government there, in accordance with the resolutions of the United Nations Security Council, and that all ideas and actions should be oriented towards that objective before any efforts were made to seek a cease-fire.

The Council reaffirmed its conviction that the operation to liberate Kuwait was taking place within the framework of Security Council resolution 678 (1990), which expressed the international community's determination to achieve the objectives set out in all Council resolutions concerning the invasion of Kuwait by Iraq and the terrible consequences thereof.

The Ministerial Council exhorted all Arab States, Muslim States and friendly States, as well as all other States of the world, to support the actions that reflected the will of the international community and to support all measures which the Security Council had adopted to liberate Kuwait and ensure the implementation of all the principles set out in its resolutions.

Done in the city of Riyadh
on 11 Rajab 1411 A.H. (26 January 1991)